

The monthly newsletter is a service to the community and our members. We welcome requests to research specific topics from the public and accept articles on local history. Please note that the Society reserves the right to accept or decline any article or material at its discretion. The Society is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any submitted material so please keep a copy for your records. Please include a note authorizing Anderson Historical Society to publish the material. We need two things from all members or those interested in local history: please be sure the Society has an updated email address and please spread the word to friends and neighbors about the Newsletter. Please contact us at: www.andersonhistorical.com.

Shasta Post Office



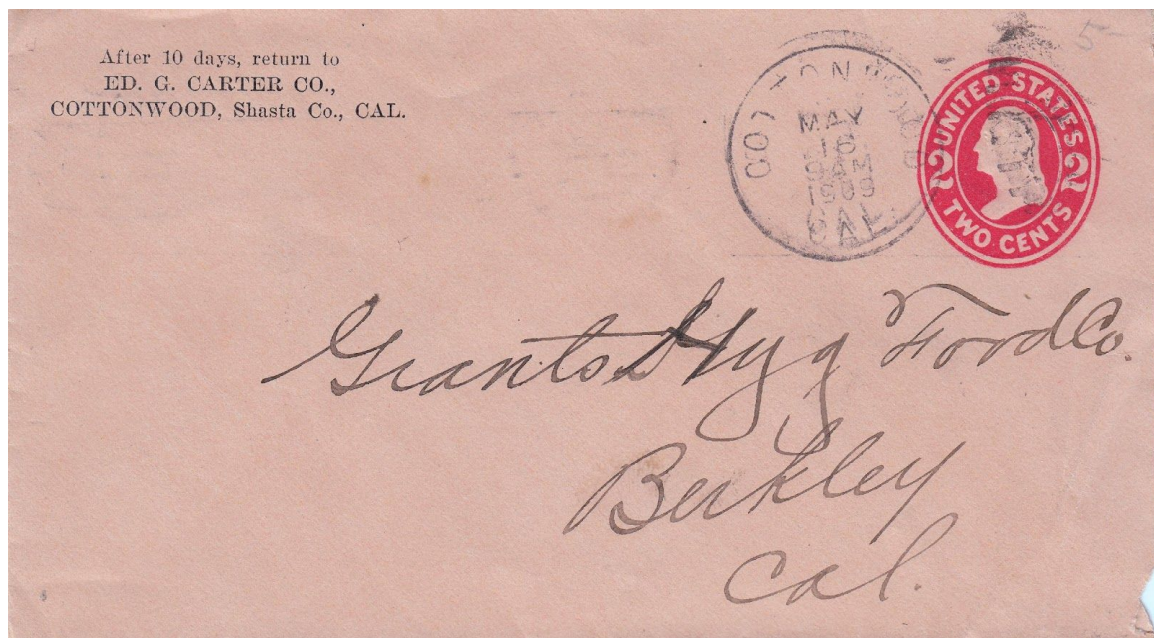
The town of Shasta was first settled in 1848 by miners from Oregon responding to news of Pierson B. Reading's discovery of gold on Clear Creek and in Trinity County. The town was first known as Reading's Springs, then Upper Springs, Shasta City and finally by official vote just Shasta in 1850. The town prospered through local placer mining but also as a transportation hub to the Trinity mines. Until the construction of a wagon to Weaverville everything past Shasta was supplied by mule pack train earning the nickname Head of Whoa Transportation. In 1851 Shasta became County Seat. After the California & Oregon Railroad opted to bypass Shasta in favor of the town and depot the railroad laid out at Redding much of the economic community began to relocate. In 1888 the County Seat was moved to Redding but the area always maintained sufficient population to warrant a post office.

The Shasta Post Office was authorized by act of a special agent of the Post Office Department sent to California to initiate postal services. Postmasters appointed by the special agent took office immediately and were later confirmed by

Washington, D. C. The confirmation date is generally the date given for establishing a post office. Shasta was confirmed on July 10, 1851 but the post office was functioning prior to that date. No exact date of operation was found.

The town was officially named Shasta in 1850 and most literature refers to the Shasta Indians. The Shasta were not native to the area around the town of Shasta. Shasta was the name originally given to Mount McLoughlin but in 1841 was transferred to the current peak. In 1850 Mount Shasta was in Shasta County and was the most prominent feature seen by most of the population. It seems more likely the town was named for the mountain. (Note with the formation of Siskiyou County in 1852 the mountain was firmly inside Siskiyou County.)

Cottonwood Post Office



The Cottonwood Post Office was established in Shasta County in 1852 on the south side of Cottonwood Creek. When the border between Tehama County and Shasta County was readjusted in 1860 the post office was in Tehama County. With the establishment of the California & Oregon Railroad depot on the north side of Cottonwood Creek in 1872 the community quickly blossomed. In September of 1872 the post office was moved north into Shasta County and it has remained open ever since.

The envelope was mailed from the Ed. G. Carter Company in Cottonwood in 1909. In the 1910 U.S. Census Edward Guy Carter was listed as a retail grocery merchant. The letter is addressed to a food company in Berkley (Berkeley) and that is consistent with Carter's occupation. Edward was the son of Daniel Carter who came to California in 1852. Edward was born in Butte County in 1864. He married

Emma C. Reiser in Tehama County in 1886 and the couple had four children: Edna 1887, Ethel 1889, Harold 1891 and Edwin 1896. Edward owned and operated the Carter's General Merchandise Store on Front Street in Cottonwood. Edward was part owner of the Cottonwood Milling Company and in 1908 established the Cottonwood Movie Theatre. In 1910 Edward sold the general merchandise store to his nephew William Laughlin Rose (1872-1950) who had managed the store since 1889. Edward died in Butte County in 1926 and Emma survived until 1944.

Hat Creek Post Office



The Hat Creek Post Office was established in 1884 and operated until 1887 when services were moved to Cassel. In 1909 the post office was reestablished at Hat Creek. In 1938 the post office was moved one and a quarter mile south about thirteen miles southeast of Burney and twenty-one mile southwest of Fall River Mills. The creek for which the post office took its name was originally known as Canoe Creek and Poinsett Creek but after Drury D. Harrill's horse stumbled and he lost his prize hat in the swift current in 1852 the creek has been named Hat Creek. The post office is still in operation.

The card was mailed at the Hat Creek Post Office to Miss Alice Brown in Anderson. Miss Brown was the daughter of the postmaster at Hat Creek, Charles Henry Brown. Since Miss Brown was about sixteen at the time she was probably attending high school in Anderson. Many affluent families from Shingletown and the

mountain areas kept winter houses in Anderson and more boarded their children for high school in Anderson.

Charles Henry Brown was born in 1850 in Illinois and was first noted in Shasta County in 1880 when he was listed as a farm laborer in Township 7. In 1900 he was listed as a stock farmer and in 1910 a hay farmer both in Burney Valley. Charles was married to Mary Elizabeth Longenfeldt (1863 Missouri-1936) and the couple had six children: John F., Stella J, Alice A. born about 1885 in California, Henry, Edgar and Laura L. By 1920 the family had moved to Napa County. In 1930 Alice was a bookkeeper in Napa. Charles died in 1946.

Heroult Post Office



The Heroult Post Office was established in 1907 and its history is tied to the Noble Electric Steel Company. The post office is named for Dr. Paul Heroult, a French metallurgist who invented the electric arc furnace. Some forward thinking entrepreneurs led by H. H. Noble of the Northern California Power Company purchased the furnace and started an experimental electrolytic smelter about two miles west of Baird near the junction of the McCloud and Pit Rivers. The mine was an iron smelter served by the Heroult Mine on the ridge above the town. The mine produced high grade magnetite ore for the Noble Electric Steel Company. The smelter was closed in 1919 and the settlement that grew up around the smelter and mine slowly moved on to other employment. In 1928 the post office was closed and operations moved to Baird.

The envelope above was mailed during the decline of Heroult in 1925 and there is no return address.



Heroult smelter in 1912



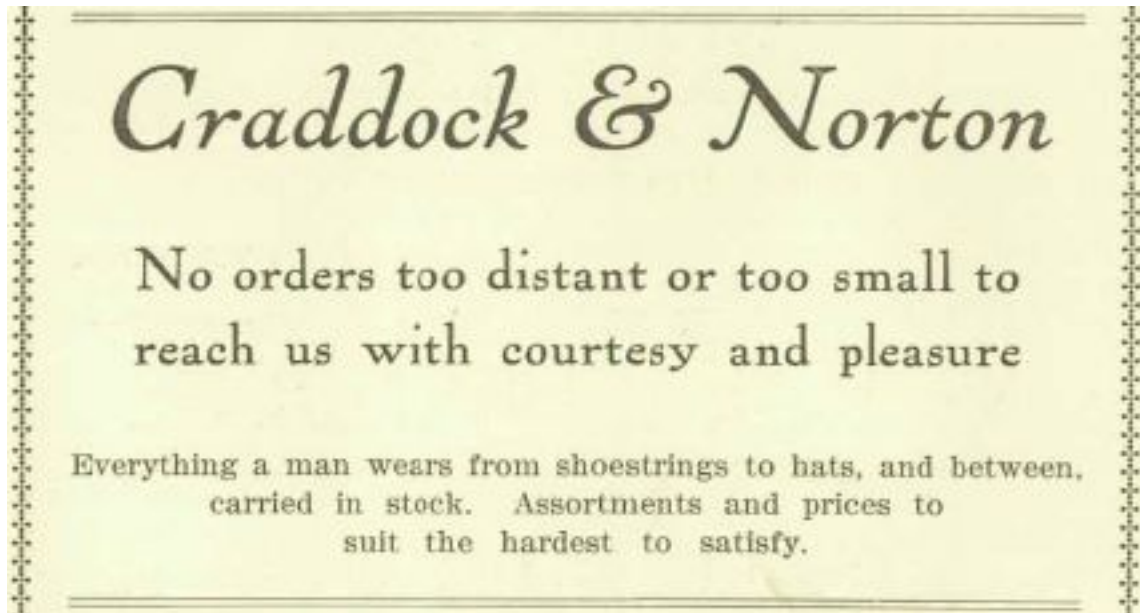
Paul L. T. Heroult

The articles for December 2020 are: 1) Charles Craddock, 2) Stephen Gilbert Joseph Roycroft, and 3) Alfred Becker.

Charles Craddock

Charles A. Craddock was born in California in 1866. Charles was the son of John Craddock 1832-1922 and Elotia Chauncey 1843-1934. John Craddock was variously cited as being born in Illinois and Missouri. By family history John worked in a livery stable in Illinois prior to coming to California in 1853. John started as a miner but quickly changed occupation to stage driver. John was known to have driven various routes such as Colusa to Tehama, Shasta to Weaverville and Shasta to Montgomery Creek and on one occasion was attacked by hostile Modoc. From 1862 to 1863 John worked as the U. S. Revenue Collector. On the Civil War draft of 1863 John was a mail carrier at Shasta and listed as single. In November 1861 John married Elotia Chauncey in Shasta County. Elotia parents were Alfred Gaston Chauncey 1815-1888 and Eliza Houghting 1823-1889, who were farming at French Gulch by 1860. In 1866 John was listed as a stage agent in Shasta. John was listed as a stage agent in the 1870 U. S. Census at Shasta and was believed to have operated a livery stable by that time. John reportedly opened a second livery stable in Redding in 1875 and continued to operate them until about 1900. In 1910 John was listed as the proprietor of a building in Redding (built in 1902). In 1920 John was listed as retired. John died in 1922 and Elotia followed in 1934. John and Elotia had six children: Ella 1862, Charles 1865-1947, Edith 1868-1944, Chauncey 1869-1939, Rose 1874-1918, and Edna 1878-1963.

Charles registered to vote in 1886 as a laborer in Shasta. By 1893 Charles appears to be working in Coos County, Oregon where he married Emma R. Rogers 1869-1911. Emma was the daughter of Stephen C. and Delia Rogers of Coos County, Oregon. Charles and Emma's first two children were born in Oregon: Warren 1896 and Allen 1900. In the 1900 U. S. Census, Charles was listed as a general manager of a merchandise store in Brandon, Coos County. By 1904 the family had moved to Redding where their third child was born: John. Charles opened the Craddock Clothing Company as the two post cards below indicate. By 1910 Charles seems to have gone into partnership as Craddock and Norton. Charles partner was Samuel S. Norton 1872-1952 and the partnership appears to have ended by 1920 when each was listed as owner of a clothing store in Redding. For a period around 1912-1914 Charles was a Trustee of Redding. In 1914 Charles married Evaline Hull 1865-1935, the daughter of Sylvester Hull and Martha Whiting. In 1920 and 1930 Charles was listed as a clothing merchant in Redding. In 1940 Charles was retired and died in 1947.



From the Shasta High School Yearbook



Craddock & Company building in Redding built in 1902. Courtesy of Shasta Historical Society.

Dear Sirs:

San Francisco, Cal. June 6th, 1905.

We are in receipt of your favor of _____
enclosing _____ for \$ 98.80 in payment of bills
dated _____ balance to March 1st inclusive,
for which please accept our thanks.

Yours truly,

HONEST
QUALITY SHOES

NOLAN & GEORGE CO.

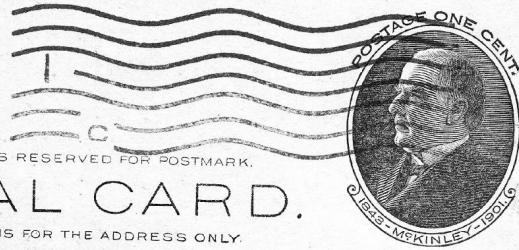
Per J. T. S.



THE SPACE ABOVE IS RESERVED FOR POSTMARK.

POSTAL CARD.

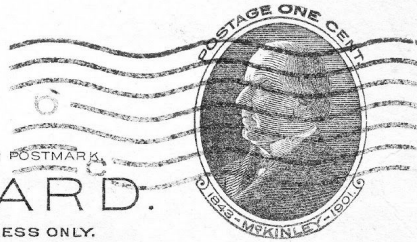
THE SPACE BELOW IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.



Craddock Clothing Co.,

Redding,

Cal.



THE SPACE ABOVE IS RESERVED FOR POSTMARK.
POSTAL CARD.
THE SPACE BELOW IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

Graddock Clo Co.
Redding Calif

"THE SHOES THAT PUT ST. LOUIS ON THE MAP."



FACTORIES
NO. 1, 1916-18-20 CHESTNUT STREET
NO. 2, 1922-24-26 CHESTNUT STREET
NO. 3, VANDEVENTER AND LACLEDE AVENUES
EXECUTIVE OFFICES
918-920-922 WASHINGTON AVENUE, COR. 10TH AND ST. CHARLES STS.

St. Louis, Mo. *Feb. 7 1906*

Dear Sir:

Remittance

under date *7/4*

amounting to \$ *68.65*

Sent by

received to-day,

Extending to you our thanks, and soliciting a continuance of
your patronage,

We are respectfully,

E. & O. E.

Wertheimer-Swartz Shoe Co.

"GROWING FASTEST WITHOUT A FUSS."

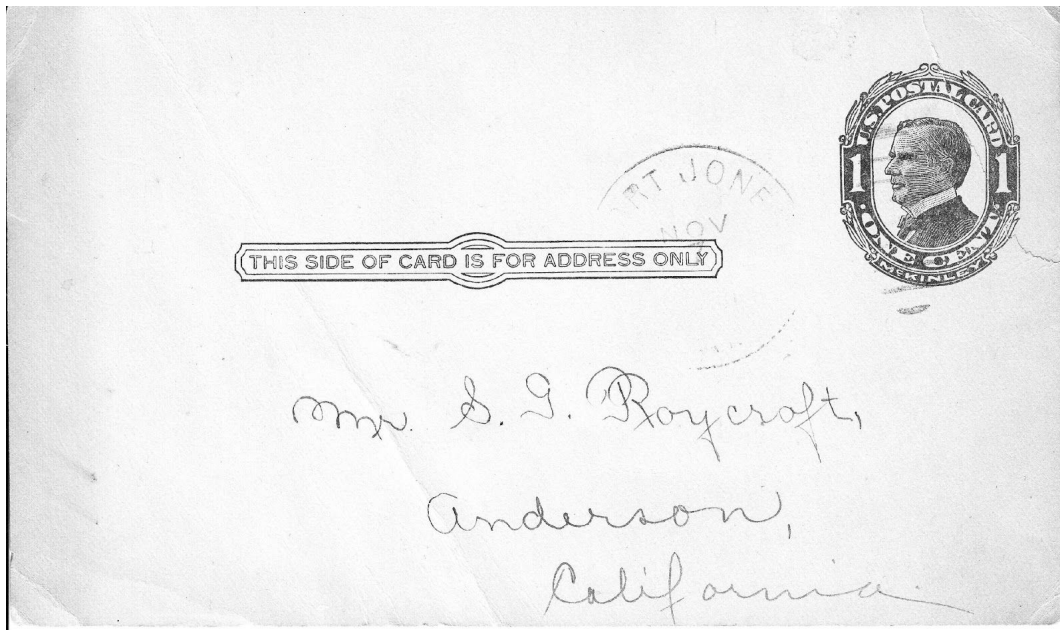


John Craddock house in Redding with Charles' mother Elotia in rocking chair.
Courtesy Shasta Historical Society.



Charles' father John Craddock. Courtesy of Shasta Historical Society.

Stephen Gilbert Joseph Roycroft

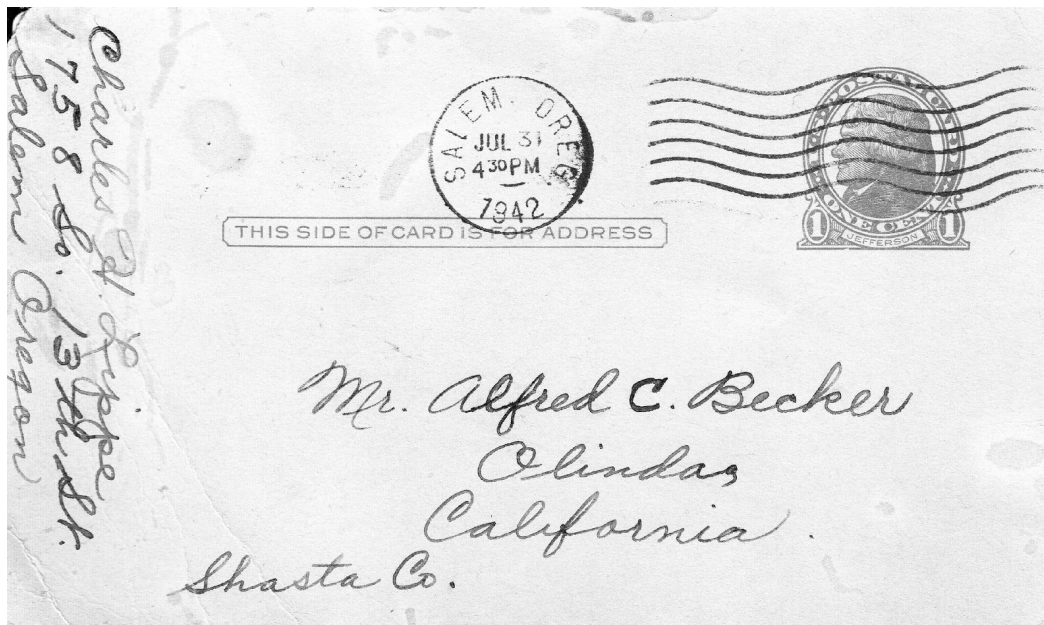


Post card sent to Stephen Gilbert Joseph Roycroft at Anderson dating from about 1910 (UX22 was only issued in 1910).

Stephen Gilbert Joseph Roycroft was born in 1874 in Tehama County. Stephen was the son of Stephen Roycroft born about 1832 (varied from 1824 to 1834) in Ireland and Margaret Roycroft born 1836 (varied from 1830 to 1836) in Ireland. From the 1900 U. S. Census Stephen immigrated in 1842 prior to the Irish famine and married about 1860. It is not known when Stephen first came to California, but he appears on the IRS tax record in Red Bluff, Tehama County in 1863 as a butcher and his daughter Mary was born about 1862 in California. Stephen was listed as a butcher in Red Bluff in 1867 and in 1870 as a stock dealer. Stephen was noted as a freighter in 1876 carrying the soldier's belongings and material from Ft. Crook to Ft. Bidwell (which may be wrong as Ft. Crook closed in 1869 and in 1876 it was still Camp Bidwell). Stephen must have moved to Shasta County by 1882 as that is when he was naturalized in the Shasta County Superior Court. In 1883 Stephen operated the Roycroft Ferry across the Sacramento at the mouth of Cow Creek that connected the Millville Road to Anderson and then by family history Stephen operated a brick yard on the corner of East and North Streets in Anderson. About 1884 Stephen built the Marshall House that became the Anderson Hotel to serve passengers from the Anderson railroad depot. In 1885 Stephen purchased 160 acres in Section 32, Township 31 North Range 3 West, MDM and in 1887 purchased an additional 139 acres in Section 8, Township 30 North Range 3 West, MDM. By 1900 Stephen's health was declining and he lived with his son Stephen's family. Stephen died in 1908 and Margaret survived until 1924. Stephen and Margaret were known to have had eight children: Mary 1862-1934, Robert 1864-1930, Georgienne 1866-1893, Margaret 1868, Joseph 1872-1872, Agnes 1877-1900, Stephen Gilbert 1874-1969, and Leo 1881-1891.

Stephen Gilbert Joseph Roycroft moved with his parents to Shasta County about 1882 and as a child helped build the Marshall House (Anderson Hotel). By family history Stephen's first job was at the Terry Lumber Company as an accountant (Stephen registered as a clerk in 1896 at Bella Vista). The family history cites Stephen as the postmaster at Bella Vista but that was his older brother Robert who was postmaster from about 1899 to about 1916. The family history next has Stephen tending bar at the Anderson Hotel for his father and in 1900 Stephen was listed as a hotel keeper in Anderson with his mother and father living on the site. In 1910 Stephen was still operating the Anderson Hotel with his mother in residence. On the 1918 World War I draft Stephen was listed as operating his own farm at Anderson (also on the 1920 U. S. Census). In 1930 Stephen was listed as a realtor and seems to have found a new career in managing rentals. In the late 1940s and 1950s Stephen was located at Central Valley. Stephen died in 1969 having never married.

Alfred Becker



Post card mailed to Alfred C. Becker in Olinda in 1942. The card is from Alfred's maternal uncle Charles H. Lippe 1872-1949.

Alfred Carl Becker was born 1889 in Iowa. Alfred was the son of Herman D. Becker 1847-1914 and Anna C. Lippe 1862-1930. By family history Herman immigrated from Germany about 1865, landing at New York, then making his way to Iowa. Herman was a cabinet-maker by trade and quickly found work as a carpenter. Herman was known to have worked in a furniture factory for thirteen years in Charles City before operating a furniture store in Mitchell for two years. In 1880 Herman married Anna C. Lippe who was the daughter of Henry Lippe 1829-1903 and Wilhelmina Boergashouser born in 1837. In 1897 Herman moved his family to Elgin, Minnesota where he operated a furniture and undertaking business until his death in 1914. Herman and Anna would have nine children: Emiel August 1882, Clara 1884-1966, Arthur Erich 1887-1957, Alfred Carl 1889-1980, Hettie 1891-1975 (married Robert Moravec), Anna (Henrietta Anna) 1895-1965, Franciska (Frances) 1897-1973, Helen about 1902, and Margaret about 1906.

Alfred appears to have attended five years of college and may have been teaching prior to World War I. One month after the declaration of war Alfred enlisted in May 1917 for the U.S. Army. Nothing could be found about his service other than he was discharged seven months after the armistice in June 1919. In the 1920 U. S. Census, Alfred was teaching in Minnesota and living with his widowed mother. Alfred's mother died in 1930 and Alfred next shows up as a laborer at Olinda in 1932 and 1934. In 1936 Alfred was listed as a laborer at Hazel Creek. On the 1940 U. S. Census Alfred was listed in Olinda as a forestry laborer and was living with his sister Hattie who had married Robert N. Morovec 1888-1958. In 1940 the Moravec family included Frances worked on a gold dredge, Jesse working as a carpenter, Muriel, Rex, and David as laborers. In 1942 Alfred was listed as a farmer at Olinda. Alfred died in 1980 and appears never to have married.